

Message Text

SECRET

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INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 SSO-00 ISO-00 /011 R

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DRAFTED BY: S/S:PKJOHNSON:WLT

APPROVED BY: S/S-O:0(PKJOHNSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL ASWAN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 055244

TOSEC 374

FOLLOWING REPEAT MANAMA 309 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ABU DHABI,
DOHA, KUWAIT, MUSCAT, MARCH 12TH:

QUOTE

S E C R E T MANAMA 0309

TOSEC

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS : OVIP,(KISSINGER,HENRY A.)

SUBJECT : BRIEFING GOB ON THE SECRETARY'S TRIP

1. IN MARCH 12 MEETING, I TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO LET GOB FOREIGN
MINISTER DOWN EASILY RE PROSPECTS SECRETARY'S VISITING LOWER
GULF DURING CURRENT TRIP. ALTHOUGH PRIME MINISTER MARCH 10
HAD MADE STRONGEST PITCH I HAVE HEARD TO DATE FOR SECRETARY'S
VISIT, GOB UNDERSTANDS PRESSING NATURE OF SECRETARY'S OTHER
COMMITMENTS AND NEED TO CONCENTRATE DURING LIMITED TIME
AVAILABLE TO HIM IN MIDDLE EAST ON CONTACTS WITH MIDDLE
EAST STATES DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN PEACE QUESTION. FOREIGN
MINISTER MADE IT VERY CLEAR TO ME HOWEVER THAT, KUWAIT
ASIDE, GOB WOULD TAKE UMBRAGE SHOULD SECRETARY AT ANY
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POINT VISIT OTHER LOWER GULF STATES WITHOUT INCLUDING

BAHRAIN ON HIS TRAVELS.

2. IN EXPRESSING GOB'S PESSIMISTIC BUT SINCERE SUPPORT FOR PRESENT U.S. PEACE EFFORT, PRIME MINISTER NOTED TO ME SLIGHT AWKWARDNESS GOB FEELS IN VIEW OF ITS CLOSE RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. IN RECEIVING EGYPTIAN AND SYRIAN EMISSARIES TO BE BRIEFED ON THE SECRETARY'S VISIT TO THEIR COUNTRIES. HE INDICATED GOB WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR FULLEST POSSIBLE USG BRIEFING ON HOW U.S. EFFORT IS EVOLVING. PRIME MINISTER STRESSED GOB'S APPRECIATION THAT IT CAN MAKE LITTLE SUBSTANTIVE INPUT TO U.S. QUEST FOR MIDDLE EAST PEACE, BUT IS, OF COURSE, ANXIOUSLY AWARE GOB MUST LIVE WITH THE RESULTS.

3. IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY HELPFUL AND APPRECIATED GESTURE IF AT SOME POINT DURING SECRETARY'S CURRENT VISIT TO MIDDLE EAST AND AGAIN UPON ITS HOPEFULLY SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION, I COULD CONVEY TO GOB A SANITIZED BRIEFING ON SECRETARY'S EFFORTS. OBVIOUSLY SUCH BRIEFINGS WOULD BE DOUBLY APPRECIATED IF I WERE AUTHORIZED TO INFORM THE FOREIGN MINISTER THAT I WAS CONVEYING A "PERSONAL MESSAGE" TO HIM FROM THE SECRETARY WITH THE SECRETARY'S REQUEST THAT FOREIGN MINISTER PASS MESSAGE ON TO AMIR AND PRIME MINISTER. PRESUMABLY THIS SAME APPROACH WILL BE APPRECIATED BY OTHER LOWER GULF GOVERNMENTS.
TWINAM UNQUOTE
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, TOSEC 374
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE055244
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: S/S:PKJOHNSON:WLT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750086-0858
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750357/aaaabzmmh.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 AUG 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <21 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: : BRIEFING GOB ON THE SECRETARY'S TRIP
TAGS: OVIP, US, BA, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: ASWAN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006